

Current Economic Indicators

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News

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NEW INCORPORATIONS DECREASED 3.3 PERCENT IN FEBRUARY

NEW YORK, Aug. 29--New business incorporations in February 1985 decreased 3.3 percent to 49,789 from 51,501 in February 1984, according to The Dun & Bradstreet Corporation.

For the first two months of 1985, however, the number of new incorporations rose 1.1 percent to 105,558, from the 104,386 new incorporations reported in the first two months of 1984.

"The growth rate of new incorporations appears to be leveling off after two years of record increases," said Joseph W. Duncan, corporate economist and chief statistician of The Dun & Bradstreet Corporation. "Despite the slowdown, the overall level of new incorporations remains high, indicating that entrepreneurs are still bullish about future economic activity."

Six of the nation's nine U.S. Bureau of the Census regions reported year-to-year increases in new incorporations for the first two months of 1985. The Middle Atlantic and Mountain states, with respective

increases of 7.3 percent and 6.7 percent, experienced the largest increases. The Pacific region suffered the largest decrease, 11.2 percent, while the West South Central and West North Central regions declined 5.4 percent and 2.4 percent, respectively, compared with the first two months of 1984.

Month of February

Six of the nation's nine U.S. Bureau of the Census regions experienced declines in February compared with year-ago levels. The most severe decreases were in the Pacific and West North Central states, down 12.9 percent and 11.4 percent, respectively. The Mountain states reported the largest regional gain, 5.6 percent, over year-ago levels.

Nineteen states registered decreases of more than 10 percent from the comparable 1984 period, including Kansas, Vermont, Hawaii and Montana, which experienced decreases in excess of 20 percent. Oklahoma reported the sharpest year-to-year decline in new incorporations, with a drop of 65.7 percent. However, February new incorporations in Louisiana soared, increasing 219.5 percent, while South Carolina gained 66.9 percent, compared with year-ago levels.

New York reported the largest number of new incorporations in the month of February with 5,660, followed by Florida (5,650), California (4,038) and Texas (3,294). On a percentage basis, new incorporations in New York increased a slight 1.8 percent, while Florida, Texas and California reported decreases of 1.0 percent,

12.7 percent and 15.4 percent, respectively, compared with February 1984 levels.

On a seasonally-adjusted basis, 54,533 new incorporations were recorded in February, an increase of 1.8 percent over the estimated 53,591 reported in February 1984.

The Dun & Bradstreet Corporation is the world's largest producer and disseminator of business information and related services, with worldwide operating revenues of nearly \$2.4 billion in 1984.

(See Attached Tables for Data on Individual States)

NEW BUSINESS INCORPORATIONS BY STATES AND GEOGRAPHIC REGIONS
(Not Seasonally Adjusted)

	Feb. 1985	Jan. 1985	% Change Jan. 1985 Feb. 1985	Feb. 1984	% Change Feb. 1984 Feb. 1985	---Total Two Months--- 1985 1984		% Change 2 Months '84-'85
NEW ENGLAND	2,461	2,705	-9.0	2,609	-5.7	5,166	5,023	2.8
Maine	176	218	-19.3	202	-12.9	394	386	2.1
New Hampshire	226	286	-21.0	219	3.2	512	407	25.8
Vermont	126	144	-12.5	169	-25.4	270	290	-6.9
Massachusetts	1,164	1,323	-12.0	1,149	1.3	2,487	2,340	6.3
Connecticut	556	505	10.1	631	-11.9	1,061	1,096	-3.2
Rhode Island	213	229	-7.0	239	-10.9	442	504	-12.3
MIDDLE ATLANTIC	9,161	10,571	-13.3	9,131	0.3	19,732	19,394	7.3
New York	5,660	6,060	-6.6	5,562	1.8	11,720	11,042	6.1
New Jersey	2,226	2,999	-25.8	2,289	-2.8	5,225	4,733	10.4
Pennsylvania	1,275	1,512	-15.7	1,280	-0.4	2,787	2,619	6.4
EAST NORTH CENTRAL	6,649	7,472	-11.0	6,613	0.5	14,121	13,547	4.2
Ohio	1,311	1,441	-9.0	1,493	-12.2	2,752	2,909	-5.4
Indiana	708	833	-15.0	766	-7.6	1,541	1,521	1.3
Illinois	2,594	2,977	-13.2	2,295	12.6	5,561	4,944	12.5
Michigan	1,551	1,591	-2.5	1,520	2.0	3,142	3,084	1.9
Wisconsin	495	630	-21.4	539	-8.2	1,125	1,089	3.3
WEST NORTH CENTRAL	2,538	2,998	-15.3	2,863	-11.4	5,536	5,674	-2.4
Minnesota	677	754	-10.2	768	-11.8	1,431	1,503	-4.8
Iowa	313	454	-31.1	347	-9.8	767	734	4.5
Missouri	792	955	-17.1	820	-3.4	1,747	1,767	-1.1
North Dakota	90	75	6.7	78	2.6	155	193	-19.7
South Dakota	78	93	-16.1	82	-4.9	171	168	1.8
Nebraska	229	239	-4.2	230	-0.4	468	353	32.6
Kansas	369	428	-13.8	538	-31.4	797	956	-16.6
SOUTH ATLANTIC	13,071 E	13,590 E-R	-3.8	13,445 E	-2.8	26,661 E	25,961 E	2.7
Maryland	1,005	709	41.7	888	13.2	1,714	1,550	10.6
Delaware	1,976	2,106	-10.9	2,208	-15.0	3,982	4,406	-9.6
Washington, DC	190 E	200 E	-5.0	170 E	11.8	390 E	350 E	11.4
Virginia	1,217	1,131	7.6	1,288	-5.5	2,348	2,576	-8.9
West Virginia	169	206	-18.0	184	-8.2	375	377	-0.5
North Carolina	864	972	-11.1	982	-12.0	1,836	2,003	-8.3
South Carolina	736	1,560	-52.8	441	66.9	2,296	962	138.7
Georgia	1,364	1,477	-7.7	1,576	-13.5	2,941	2,927	-2.9
Florida	5,850	5,229 R	8.1	5,738	-1.0	10,879	10,810	0.6

NEW BUSINESS INCORPORATIONS BY STATES AND GEOGRAPHIC REGIONS
(Not Seasonally Adjusted)

	Feb. 1985	Jan. 1985	% Change Jan. 1985 Feb. 1985	Feb. 1984	% Change Feb. 1984 Feb. 1985	---Total Two Months--- 1985 1984		% Change 2 Months '84-'85
EAST SOUTH CENTRAL	1,925	2,291	-16.0	2,008	-4.1	4,216	4,137	1.9
Kentucky	571	712	-19.8	563	1.4	1,283	1,168	9.8
Tennessee	566	725	-21.9	679	-16.6	1,291	1,337	-3.4
Alabama	497	570	-14.6	515	-5.4	1,057	1,117	-5.4
Mississippi	301	284	6.0	251	19.9	585	515	13.6
WEST SOUTH CENTRAL	4,853 E	5,257 E	-7.7	5,049 E	-3.9	10,110 E	10,684 E	-5.4
Arkansas	440	410	7.3	314	40.1	850	710	19.7
Oklahoma	234 E	287 E	-18.5	683 E	-65.7	521 E	1,313 E	-60.3
Louisiana	885	1,139	-22.3	277	219.5	2,024	1,156	75.1
Texas	3,294	3,421	-3.7	3,775	-12.7	6,715	7,505	-10.5
MOUNTAIN	3,496	4,861	-28.1	3,310	5.6	8,357	7,835	6.7
Montana	102	140	-27.1	133	-23.3	242	263	-8.0
Idaho	114	152	-25.0	131	-13.0	266	291	-8.6
Wyoming	88	81	8.6	91	-3.3	169	190	-11.1
Colorado	974	1,268	-23.2	895	8.8	2,242	2,193	2.2
New Mexico	207	246	-15.9	231	-10.4	453	445	1.8
Arizona	953	1,860	-48.8	784	21.6	2,813	2,308	21.9
Utah	307	365	-15.9	311	-1.3	672	684	-1.8
Nevada	751	749	0.3	734	2.3	1,500	1,461	2.7
PACIFIC	5,635	6,024	-6.5	6,473	-12.9	11,659	13,131	-11.2
Alaska	192	170	12.9	172	11.6	362	392	-7.7
Washington	658	746	-11.8	731	-10.0	1,404	1,529	-8.2
Oregon	552	622	-11.3	543	1.7	1,174	1,158	1.4
California	4,038	4,226	-4.4	4,771	-15.4	8,264	9,579	-13.7
Hawaii	195	260	-25.0	256	-23.8	455	473	-3.8
TOTAL U. S. (unadjusted)	49,789 E	55,769 E-R	-10.7	51,501 E	-3.3	105,558 E	104,386 E	1.1
TOTAL U.S. (seasonally adjusted)	54,533	53,266 R	2.4	53,591 E	1.8			

E = Estimated

R = Revised

P = Preliminary

Note: The state of Oklahoma always supplies estimated figures.

Source: Economic Analysis Department, The Dun & Bradstreet Corporation.

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